

My own daughter was not in school today and will not be tomorrow due to threats of copycat violence. Many school districts across metro Detroit have closed altogether.

This is a terrifying time to be a parent, a school professional, a law enforcement officer, and, Lord knows, a child.

This was the deadliest school shooting since 2018, the year our children rose up and asked us to take action. The House has passed several bills to curb gun violence, yet Congress as a whole has not enacted a single new law for our kids.

This father urges our colleagues in the Senate to act, no more thoughts and prayers, but to act at long last.

I send my deepest condolences to the families and friends of Hana, Tate, Madisyn, and Justin. When we say never again, let's mean it this time.

WARREN COUNTY TAX HOLIDAY

(Mr. CHABOT asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. CHABOT. Madam Speaker, inflation is at the highest level that we have seen in decades and rising. The cost of buying a home is up. The cost to fill your gas tank is up. The cost to feed your family is up. Even the cost of buying Christmas presents for your children or grandchildren is up.

While the pandemic certainly bears some blame, the failed policies of the Biden administration have made things considerably worse. His administration and his allies here in Congress have spent trillions of dollars that we don't have, which inevitably will lead to higher taxes and higher prices for items that hardworking Americans buy every day.

Despite the bad news nationally, one county in my congressional district actually has good news for its residents. Warren County Commissioners Tom Grossmann, Shannon Jones, and David Young announced recently that they would not be collecting property taxes from their residents this year. The commissioners are able to do this by exercising fiscal responsibility, as we ought to do here in the House, and putting aside money for a rainy day, rather than spending money that they didn't have.

Kudos to the Warren County commissioners for giving their taxpayers a little extra holiday cheer this year.

A DIMINISHED SUPREME COURT

(Mr. COHEN asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. COHEN. Madam Speaker, I mourn the loss of the Supreme Court of the United States of America.

As a lawyer, I have always had respect for the Court as the highest court in the land dispensing justice, but starting with *Bush v. Gore*, it became more political.

In *Shelby v. Holder*, it emasculated the Voting Rights Act, destroying section 5 and taking the basic fundamental principles of democracy away from so many people.

In *Citizens United*, it gave the rich and the powerful more and more money.

And then yesterday, it took away women's right to choose.

To hear some of the arguments from Justice Kavanaugh, to say abortion is not in the Constitution so we should leave it to the States, well, high-speed internet is not in the Constitution either, but the courts can hear cases on that. Nuclear power is not in the Constitution, but the Court will hear cases on that.

To hear Justice Barrett say women can just go a little longer and give birth to those children because there will be somebody there that wants to adopt that child, deciding for the mothers that they will have to bear that child might cost them their life. Childbearing is not without risk and takes them away from other things.

Unfortunately, the Court is very diminished.

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MANIPULATION OF GAS PRICES

(Mr. FITZGERALD asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. FITZGERALD. Madam Speaker, the Biden administration's energy agenda is a disaster. The President's decision to cancel the Keystone XL pipeline cost hundreds of jobs in Wisconsin and undermined our Nation's energy independence, and his policies have made energy prices soar.

As a result, the American people are paying the price at the gas pump. Part of my district, the Fifth Congressional District in southeastern Wisconsin, is an EPA-designated ozone nonattainment zone, another contributor to the very high gas prices that we are seeing.

This designation requires area gas stations to use more expensive, reformulated gasoline. The increased cost of the reformulated gas is passed on to consumers, resulting in gas prices 10 to 15 cents higher in some counties in my district, compared to the county right next to it.

The irony is that President Biden is blaming oil and gas companies for manipulating gas prices and is encouraging the FTC to investigate. In reality, it is the administration's old, failed policies that are responsible for the manipulation of the gas prices. The truth is Americans cannot afford this way of life.

MATERNAL MORTALITY RATES AMONG BLACK WOMEN

(Mr. BOWMAN asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. BOWMAN. Madam Speaker, I rise today because the maternal health crisis in this country is dire, with the United States being the only developed country in the world experiencing a rise in maternal mortality rates.

It is even more dire for Black women, who are three to four times more likely to die from pregnancy-related complications.

This is no coincidence. For centuries, systemic racism has harmed the mental, physical, and economic well-being of Black and Brown people. Thanks to the leadership of Black women in Congress, Congresswoman UNDERWOOD, Congresswoman SEWELL, Congresswoman ADAMS, and more, who are driving the momnibus, this body is working to bring us out of a Black maternal health crisis.

Madam Speaker, I rise for my sisters and their babies who are more than a statistic and deserve to be holistically treated and cared for. Black moms matter.

I urge my colleagues to support the momnibus and join us in our effort to protect Black women and Black mothers.

RECOGNIZING BRIGADIER GENERAL WILLIAM "ROBBIE" ROBERTSON ON HIS RETIREMENT

(Mr. LAHOOD asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. LAHOOD. Madam Speaker, I rise to commemorate the service of Brigadier General William "Robbie" Robertson on his retirement from the Illinois Air National Guard.

A Peoria native, General Robertson served 41 years in the Armed Forces, much of it as a member of Peoria's 182nd Airlift Wing of the Illinois National Guard. He served in various capacities as a security policeman, a pilot, a forward air controller, chief of operations, wing commander, and chief of staff for the Illinois Air National Guard.

General Robertson was integral in making the 182nd one of the best C-130 units in the country. During General Robertson's time at the 182nd, the unit earned five Air Force Outstanding Unit Awards, and nine times reached the highest C-130 Hercules mission capable rates in Air Mobility Command.

General Robertson is known throughout the Peoria community for his steady leadership and integrity. He is beloved by those who worked with him and know him.

I want to thank him for his service to our country and to our community and wish him well in his retirement.

RECOGNIZING GORDON RATHER

(Mr. HILL asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. HILL. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize Gordon Rather and

his hard work with the Historic Arkansas Museum in Little Rock. Currently, Gordon serves as the secretary of the Historic Arkansas Museum Commission. This year will mark Gordon's 50th year on the museum's board.

For half of those years, I have been fortunate to work alongside Gordon, an exceptional attorney and civic leader. He has devoted his adult life to preserving Arkansas' rich heritage for our kids.

I am proud to have served at his side in this worthy mission. I have seen firsthand the impact that he has made on our State and the legacy that he is preserving.

Congratulations, Gordon, on 50 years educating Arkansans about our rich history and preserving it for the next generation. I am thankful for your service.

TEMPLE BETH AM WELCOMES JEWISH PEOPLE FROM ALL WALKS OF LIFE

(Ms. SALAZAR asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Ms. SALAZAR. Madam Speaker, I rise today, on the fifth day of Hanukkah, to give special recognition to my Jewish community in Florida's 27th Congressional District.

As their Congresswoman, I have the distinct honor of representing one of the largest Jewish communities in the country, which includes Temple Beth Am, one of the largest congregations in the southeast United States.

For over 65 years, Temple Beth Am has welcomed Jewish people from all walks of life to worship, to study, and to seek refuge. For over six decades, the synagogue has provided spiritual guidance and served the Miami community in so many ways.

Much of this would have never happened without the leadership of Beth Am Senior Rabbi, Jeremy Barras. There are so many great spiritual Jewish leaders in our community along with Rabbi Barras; Rabbi Yitzi Zweig of the Talmudic University Yeshiva in Miami Beach; Rabbi Yossi Harlig of the Chabad Center of Kendall and Pinecrest; and Rabbi Eliot Pearlson of Temple Menorah in Miami Beach. They are esteemed local leaders and pillars of the Miami Jewish community, and I call them my friends.

Over the next few days, our Jewish brothers and sisters all over the world will continue to celebrate the Festival of Lights, God permitting. I offer my best wishes to all of them.

GUN VIOLENCE IN OUR SCHOOLS

(Ms. JACKSON LEE asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Ms. JACKSON LEE. Madam Speaker, I have been here since the Columbine tragedy, which is more than 20 years ago. I have faced a mountain of trage-

dies in schools with children dying at the hands of guns.

I offer my deepest sympathy for the loss of the beautiful, precious people in Michigan. I think a simple addition to this whole idea of the gun safety discussion—I intend to introduce a bill that is in tribute to Kimberly Vaughan who died in Santa Fe at the hands of a young gunman. I want to just simply say, Store your guns.

This storage act in honor of her name responds to the tragedy that just happened as well because it requires manufacturers and retailers to sell guns with storage safety devices to ensure that those penalties for not doing so are ahead of the loss of life; providing tax credits for those who do that; and as well, providing grants for more information about safety devices.

We have to do whatever we can to save the lives of our children.

TASKS TO DO OVER THE RECESS

(Mr. GROTHMAN asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. GROTHMAN. Madam Speaker, I think after next week we are going to spend about 3 weeks back in the district. It would be nice if people would go down to the southern border, as I did, and look at the path into Yuma, Texas, in which all the photo IDs are being thrown aside by the people who want to forget their past and start a new life in America.

I also hope when people go back home, they spend some time with the farmers and with the manufacturers that make our country run. They will find that the cost of metals used in manufacturing—and I have a big manufacturing district—are sometimes going up five or six times. Not 5 or 6 percent, five or six times.

They will find that mucking around with the free market of trucking in California has resulted in huge shortages of various different things that we need, including chemicals needed for agriculture, for things like planting soybeans and corn. Some farmers are afraid that sometime in the next year we are going to have a food shortage.

They will find out that the goal of taking away fossil fuels is going to result in significant increases in heating oil, which is particularly a problem in northern Wisconsin.

THE NEED FOR BETTER FOREST MANAGEMENT

(Mr. LAMALFA asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. LAMALFA. Madam Speaker, as we reflect upon yet another horrific fire season in California and the West, we cannot allow ourselves to forget or get complacent.

This week, we have had several good meetings here in D.C. with various groups talking about the need for better forest management.

This is more or less what the average forest looks like that is unmanaged. You can hardly see through it. You could never ride a horse through it. An owl can hardly fly through the thing. So what does this mean, an overcrowded forest? It means fire danger.

These trees compete for a limited amount of water supply. Insects attack and weaken trees because they don't have enough water and soil nutrients.

The right amount of trees per acre would look something like this. See, we are not cutting all the trees from Mexico to the Canadian border, we are leaving some behind, a healthier more sustainable forest. We will have much more success and much less fire danger.

Indeed, over a million acres in my district burned this year—a million acres. That is terrible for water quality, air quality, for the wildlife, and for the habitat. We could do so much better and put people back to work managing our forests in a way that is better for everybody with access to the forest. Let's get on it.

CANCEL STUDENT LOAN DEBT

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Ms. STRICKLAND). Under the Speaker's announced policy of January 4, 2021, the gentleman from New York (Mr. BOWMAN) is recognized for 60 minutes as the designee of the majority leader.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. BOWMAN. Madam Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members have 5 legislative days in which to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material on the subject of my Special Order.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from New York?

There was no objection.

Mr. BOWMAN. Madam Speaker, today, we are focused on Federal student loans.

This global pandemic, which is very much still with us, has been hard on Americans in so many ways. One source of relief the Federal Government has been able to provide is the pause on Federal student loan payments. That pause is scheduled to end after January, and tens of millions of Americans will have to resume monthly payments on their loans.

Millions of people will yet again be faced with terrible choices between paying off their loans and putting food on the table, paying for childcare, or paying medical bills. Student debt is a national crisis. It was a crisis before the COVID-19 pandemic and it is an even bigger one now.

I can't think of a better opportunity to cancel student loan debt. Today, over 40 million borrowers owe a combined \$1.8 trillion in loans, and the share of people who are able to make payments high enough to reduce their principal balance has been rapidly declining. That means for years people have been doing all they can to make